**GROUND WATER FORUM TELECONFERENCE**
**Thursday April 6, 2000**

SPRING MEETING UPDATE

Vince Malott gave an update on the spring TSP meeting scheduled for April 25-28.

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| Tuesday morning: | Plenary session |
| Tuesday afternoon: | Phytoremediation training |
| Wednesday morning: | Technical issues |
| | Workgroup update |
| Wednesday afternoon: | St. Joseph update |
| | RCRA corrective action/OSWER topics |
| Thursday morning: | Isotopes for monitoring ground-water migration (Bill Sidle) |
| | Tom Kabis with Kabis Samplers |
| | Continuous Modular Tubing case histories (Murray Einerson) |
| | CMT wells (Solinist) |
| | Conclusions of new National Research Council report on natural attenuation (Jackie MacDonald) |
| Thursday afternoon: | Fractured rock (Pete Haeni/Al Shapiro) |
| | Hydrogen and oxygen releasing compounds |
| Friday morning: | Business session |
| | Ground-water transfer to indoor air |
| | Redox workshop update |

BUSINESS SESSION ITEMS

*Draft Guidelines for Mapping*

René asked if anyone had comments on the Region 10 draft guidelines for mapping. He intends to finalize it in the next few weeks. The guidelines address minimum quality requirements for maps submitted to the Region in work plans and reports. Dave Burden, Dave Wilson, Jennifer Sutter, and Henry Schuver asked to have copies sent to them.

Dave Burden indicated he is a member of the GIS QA workgroup. They just sponsored a workshop in Albuquerque for GIS QA managers. They are not looking at updating MAD codes. They are concentrating on how to QA the data that goes into a GIS system.

Eric Koglin at NERL-Las Vegas suggested that René send him a copy of the draft and he would ensure it gets to the correct individual at the EPIC group in Las Vegas.

*Ground Water Discharge to Surface Water: A RCRA Perspective*

Debbie Goldblum indicated she has been talking with ORD about developing a method to assess surface water and sediment impacts from contaminated ground-water discharge. The RCRA program now has two environmental indicators that drive the program in meeting their GPRA goals. They are : Current human exposure under control, and Migration of contaminated ground water under control (i.e., no migration at the perimeter of the plume).

The second indicator is fairly straight forward unless there is discharge to a surface water body. If it can be shown that the discharge is having no impact on the surface water or sediment, then you have met the

conditions of the second indicator. There are about 1700 RCRA facilities that are in the indicator group, and in Region 3 about 80 percent of these abut surface waters.

Henry Shuver noted that RCRA gives some guidance on how "cause an impact" can be determined. One rule of thumb is there is an impact if concentrations of chemicals in a well near the surface water are greater than 10 times their MCL or water quality standard. There are caveats to this rule such as concentrations measured near a sensitive environment or low flow stream. This rule is not hard and fast and is intended to prioritize site assessments, not give sites with less than 10 times the relevant standard a clean bill of health.

Randy Breeden remarked that Region 8 has problems with this approach because it is based on concentration and not mass loading.

Henry indicated that there is a question in the document that addresses mass loading if the concentrations are greater than 100 times the appropriate standard.

Helge Gabert asked if the rule applied to degradation products as well as parent compounds and if they summed the results of multiple contaminants.

Henry said the rule addressed each contaminant individually.

Dick Willey commented that the Region 1 Superfund program is beginning to think that grab sampling of a surface water is actually inappropriate to make any decisions. Region 1 is also seeing situations where the release does not mix fully with the surface water and a contaminant plume is created that can run for miles.

René and Bruce Duncan noted that with slightly soluble NAPLs or not sampling in the heart of a NAPL plume could cause a serious problem to be overlooked. An example is creosote that might not show up in the water column but could have serious impact on sediment. He would like to see some kind of guidance on when to use the 10 times rule and when not to.

*Direct Push Technology Comparison Study*

Eric Koglin reported on The Direct Push Technology Comparison Study. It is a cooperative effort between EPA (NERL-Las Vegas) and the Air Force Research Lab (Rick Young). Its objective is to perform side by side tests at five different sites of wells placed by direct push and conventional means to determine if comparable analytical results are attained. The tests are for chemistry only, not for aquifer characteristics. Eric has been asked to develop a performance verification method for the tests. He asked the Forum for volunteers to help in designing the protocols. The end product will be a determination of whether direct push wells can be used in place of conventional wells for contaminant sampling.

Bernie Zavala mentioned that OERR has a direct push work group led by Rob Hitzig and it might be a good idea for this effort to interact with them.

Eric will submit something in writing to the co-chairs to formally ask for volunteers to work on the project.

Rob Hitzig invited Eric and the Rick to participate in the direct push work group conference call on May 2. He will provide them with agendas and appropriate phone numbers.

ATTENDEES

Dick Willey, Region 1
Debbie Goldblum, Region 3
Dave Petrovski, Region 5
Luanne Vanderpool, Region 5
Dave Wilson, Region 5
Vince Malott, Region 6
Jeff Johnson, Region 7
Randy Breeden, Region 8
Mark Filipini, Region 9
René Fuentes, Region 10
Bernie Zavala, Region 10
Brian Lewis, CA DTSC
Jennifer Sutter, OR DEQ
Judy Canova, SC DHEC
Helge Gabert UT DEQ
Matt Charsky, HQ/OERR
Rob Hitzig, HQ/OERR
Mark Mercer, HQ/OSW
Bonnie Robinson, HQ/OSW
Henry Schuver, HQ/OSW
Rich Steimle, HQ/TIO
Eric Koglin ESD LV
Dave Burden SPRD ADA
Jerry Jones SPRD ADA
Rick Young USAF
Kay Wischkaemper, Region 4